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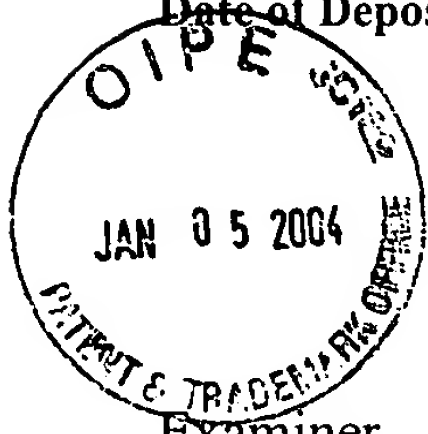
Date of Deposit: January 5, 2004

Attorney Docket No. 19313-004 (NS-4)

Expedited Procedure

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Group Art Unit 1647



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner : Christopher J. Nichols, Ph.D.
Art Unit : 1647
Applicant : Lars Wahlberg et al.
Serial No. : 09/696,530 (Confirmation No.: 4889)
Filed : October 24, 2000
For : CULTURES OF GFAP⁺ NESTIN⁺ CELLS
THAT DIFFERENTIATE TO NEURONS

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AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

This is in response to the November 4, 2003 Final Office Action in the above-identified application. Applicants are filing this response within the shortened statutory period set to expire on February 4, 2004, therefore no additional fees are believed due. Additionally, applicants are filing this response within two months of the issuance of the Final Office Action, that period expiring on January 5, 2004 (January 4, 2004 being a Sunday).

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 19313-004.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and enter the proposed amendments in order to place the application in better condition for Allowance or Appeal:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 8.